

## Message Text

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61

ORIGIN SCCT-01

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 SY-05 SSO-00 NSCE-00

USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 (ISO) R

DRAFTED BY S/CCT:RAFEAREY:IJG

APPROVED BY NEA - ALFRED ATHERTON

S/PRS - MR. FUNSETH (INFO)

----- 037217

O 030132Z JUL 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ANKARA IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD IMMEDIATE

USCINCEUR

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 156944

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS

SUBJECT: REPORTED ABDUCTION OF COL. ERNEST R. MORGAN

REF: (A) BEIRUT 8377; (B) A-775, FEBRUARY 5, 1975

1. FOR BEIRUT: OUR HOPE OF COURSE IS THAT MORGAN IS BEING HELD ONLY FOR QUESTIONING AND WILL SOON BE RELEASED, AS IN OTHER RECENT INSTANCES OF ABDUCTION OF US OFFICIALS IN LEBANON. THIS SEEMS MOST LIKELY TO OCCUR IF ABDUCTION IS GIVEN LEAST POSSIBLE PUBLICITY, AVOIDING PARTICULARLY INFORMATION WHICH WOULD SUGGEST TO ABDUCTORS THAT MORGAN IS A FIGURE OF IMPORTANCE FROM WHOM THEY MIGHT BE ABLE TO SECURE VALUABLE INTELLIGENCE AND FOR WHOSE RELEASE THEY MIGHT HOPE TO SECURE RANSOM CONCESSIONS. FROM THIS POINT OF VIEW, UNLESS YOU PERCEIVE OVERRIDING OBJECTION TO CONTRARY, BELIEVE EMBASSY SHOULD CONFINE ITS COMMENTS TO CONFIDENTIAL

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REPLIES TO PRESS QUERIES, AS AT DEPARTMENT'S NOON BRIEFING

TODAY, SEPARATELY REPORTED.

2. FOR ANKARA: REQUEST ANY FURTHER PRESS STATEMENTS RE  
ABDUCTION BE COORDINATED PRIOR TO RELEASE WITH DEPARTMENT,  
PER ENCLOSURE 3 TO REFERENCED AIRGRAM. INGERSOLL

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** KIDNAPPING, PRESS RELEASES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 03 JUL 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** CunninFX  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975STATE156944  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** RAFEAREY:IJG  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750230-0192  
**From:** STATE  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1975/newtext/t19750787/aaaaczsd.tel  
**Line Count:** 66  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ORIGIN SCCT  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 75 BEIRUT 8377, 75 A-775, 75 FEBRUARY 5, 75 1975  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** CunninFX  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 14 AUG 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <14 AUG 2003 by izenbei0>; APPROVED <03 DEC 2003 by CunninFX>  
**Review Markings:**

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EO Systematic Review  
06 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** REPORTED ABDUCTION OF COL. ERNEST R. MORGAN  
**TAGS:** PINS, CASC, US, LE, (MORGAN, ERNEST R)  
**To:** BEIRUT ANKARA  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006